

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-25 and 37-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5-25 and 37-41 have been canceled without prejudice by the present Amendment and claims 42-61 have been added by the present Amendment. New claims 42-61 do not add new matter.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Withdrawal is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 5, 6, 37 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0227591 ("Liu") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,411,346 ("Numano").

In addition withdrawal is respectfully requested of the rejection of: (1) claims 7-9, 12, 23, 38 and 40-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,897,909 ("Ochiai") in view of U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0149729 ("Nishimura"), and further in view of Numano; (2) claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2001/0004280 ("Kim"); (3) claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,337,723 ("Bae"); (4) claims 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,879,359 ("Kikkawa"); (5) claims 24 and 25 as being unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano and further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0006408 ("Matsuyama"); (6) claims 17 and 18 as being unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0026341 ("Lee"); and (7) claims 19-22 as being

unpatentable over Ochiai in view of Nishimura and Numano and further in view of Bae and Matsuyama.

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 5-25 and 37-41, and accordingly submits that the rejections of these claims are moot.

NEW CLAIMS

Claim 42

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of the cited references does not disclose or suggest the limitations of new claim 42, especially, a region partitioning member formed on at least one of the first and the second substrates and partitioning into a plurality of tilt regions by the region partitioning member, each tilt region including a pair of major edges parallel to the curved portions of the second signal lines.

Therefore, Applicant maintains that claim 42 is patentable over the cited references.

Further, for at least the reason that claims 43-50 depend from claim 42, claims 43-50 are also submitted to be patentably distinct over the cited references.

Claim 51

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of the cited references does not disclose or suggest the limitations of new claim 51, especially, the storage electrode having a quadrilateral shape and an edge of the storage electrode that is inclined by an angle of about 45 degrees with respect to a lengthwise direction of the storage electrode line.

For example, as shown in Fig. 1, the storage electrode 133 has the shape of a diamond or rectangle that includes an edge inclined by an angle of about 45 degrees

with respect to the lengthwise direction of the storage electrode line 131. See, e.g., Applicant's disclosure, Fig. 1 and page 11, lines 1-6 (¶ 0073). This configuration of the storage electrode 133 allows for increased overlapping area of the expansions at the drain electrodes 175 with the storage electrodes 133, thereby increasing storage capacitance. See Applicant's disclosure, Fig. 1 and page 15, lines 18-23 (¶ 0092).

For example, in contrast to the claimed embodiment, the Cs wiring 3 in Numano does not include a projection that has the shape of a diamond or rectangle that includes an edge inclined by an angle of about 45 degrees with respect to the lengthwise direction of the Cs wiring 3. See Numano, Fig. 1.

Further, Applicant maintains that none of the remaining cited references cure the deficiency in Numano.

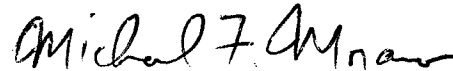
In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of the cited references does not disclose or suggest the limitations of new claim 51, especially, a region partitioning member formed on at least one of the first and the second substrates and partitioning into a plurality of tilt regions by the region partitioning member.

Therefore, Applicant maintains that claim 51 is patentable over the cited references.

Further, for at least the reason that claims 52-61 depend from claim 51, claims 52-61 are also submitted to be patentably distinct over the cited references.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicant's Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael F. Morano". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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